

LESSON 12

JESUS CHRIST'S SECOND COMING

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand what is the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
2. To recognize the signs that tell us Jesus Christ will come again.
3. To know how to prepare ourselves for the Second Coming.

MEMORY VERSE

"Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming."

(Matthew 25:13)

PRAYER

Thank You, God, for gathering us here today to worship You. Today, we are going to learn about the day that You will come again to take us all to our heavenly home. This last day is not a day of fear but of rejoicing. We will finally be united with You for all eternity. Please open our hearts today in class, so that we can learn Your words and live our life every day with our hope in You.



Overview

1. Bible Discovery and Spiritual Teaching

- o Jesus Christ ascends to heaven
- o When will Jesus Christ come again?
- o What are the signs?
- o Why does Jesus Christ need to come again?
- o What will happen when Jesus Christ comes again?
- o How do we prepare ourselves for Jesus' Second Coming?
 - Strive to be holy and filled with Holy Spirit
 - Be faithful in serving the Lord
 - Love our neighbors

2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—The Second Coming

3. Life Application—Are You Ready?

4. Activity—Guess How Many



Background Knowledge for Teachers

In the Old Testament, God prophesied that there will be a day of judgment for the whole world. Psalm 96:13 tells us that the Lord will come to judge the earth according to His righteousness and according to His truth. Also, we can see from Isaiah 66:15 that the Lord is coming with fire to render His anger with fury. Jesus Christ also repeats this message in the New Testament and He gives further details about the last days. In Matthew 24, Jesus Christ warns His disciples about the signs of the end times. He tells them that there will be false prophets, wars, famines, pestilence, and earthquakes. Jesus Christ paints a vivid picture of the destruction that will come. He tells the disciples that when He does come again, it will be at an unknown time (Mat 24:36). As a result, Jesus Christ instructs His disciples to keep watch and always be ready, for they do not know the day in which He will come again.

After Jesus Christ's ascension to heaven, the disciples believed that Jesus would actually return in a short time, but after more than 2,000 years, we are still waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus. Today, for believers, the Second Coming of Jesus Christ is not a day to be feared but rather a day to which we should look forward. Jesus Christ told His disciples that when He comes again, it will be the time when He will take them to their heavenly home (Jn 14:2-3). As we live each day, we should live with purpose and alertness, so that we will be ready for when Jesus Christ comes again.



Reaching Out to Your Students

For some students, the Second Coming is an event that they may have heard of, but do not fully comprehend. Likewise, they may not understand the importance of the Second Coming in their daily lives. Elementary 2 students know that they need to be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit to enter into heaven. Moreover, they have been taught that Jesus Christ will come again and take them to heaven. Therefore, in this lesson, it is important to emphasize the need to remain watchful and alert in our daily life so that we will be prepared when Jesus Christ comes again. We should not fear the Second Coming but rather wait in hope to meet our Savior, Jesus Christ.

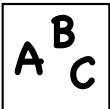


Opener

5 Minutes

**If you knew that Jesus Christ was coming tomorrow, what would you do?
Would you act differently than you usually do? Would you do different things?
Would you be ready?**

Jesus Christ has already promised us that He will be coming soon and, when He does come again, it will be the time of judgment for our actions. As children of God, we are blessed to have received the truth. However, there is still much that we can prepare ourselves for when Jesus Christ comes again! Let us study more about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and what it means to us.



Vocabulary

ascension: the act of rising

salvation: the act of delivering from sin or saving from evil

condemnation: a final judgment of guilty and the punishment that is given

talent: a unit of value worth more than 15 years wages for a worker



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 to the students now. Instruct them to follow along with the lesson and complete the worksheet accordingly. Answers are in bold and underlined. Keep a copy of the worksheet for reference.

Jesus Christ ascends to heaven! (Acts 1:4-11)

In Acts 1, it records that Jesus Christ spent forty days with His disciples and the time came for Him to depart from them to ascend to heaven. As the disciples were gathered with Jesus Christ at the Mount of Olives right outside Jerusalem, Jesus Christ commanded them not to depart from the city and to wait for the promised Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ also commanded them to be witnesses to Him to the end of the earth. After giving the disciples these instructions, Jesus Christ was taken up and a cloud received Him out of their sight. The disciples continued to

stare towards heaven when two angels in white clothing came and stood by them. They said to the disciples, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). After hearing this, the disciples returned to Jerusalem to wait for the promised Holy Spirit, which later on came down on the Day of Pentecost. Filled with the Holy Spirit, the disciples were now ready to preach the gospel and save souls until the day that Jesus Christ comes again! Today, it has been over 2,000 years since Jesus Christ's ascension, and we are still waiting for Jesus Christ to come again from heaven in the same manner in which He ascended.

When will Jesus Christ come again?

Only **God** knows when Jesus Christ is going to come again (Mat 24:36). Jesus Christ also tells us that no one knows

when He will come again, but that the day of the Lord will be like a **thief** in the night (1 Th 5:2). Even though we do not know the exact day, Jesus Christ has warned us about the signs that will appear before His coming. From the many signs and events that we observe in the world, we know that the day of His coming is drawing closer and closer.

Let us see what the Bible tells us about the signs of the last days.

What are the signs of Jesus' Second Coming?

In Matthew 24:1-8, Jesus Christ tells the disciples that there will be **Wars, famines, natural disasters, and false prophets** in the last days. These are all signs of the day when He will come again to take us with Him to heaven.

These days, many people ignore these signs and continue living without any care. This is very similar to the people in the days of Noah. "They ate, they drank, they married [...] until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all" (Lk 17:27). When we look at the world around us today, we can see that it is becoming more and more corrupted. Not only has man increased in **violence against man**, but also the environment around us is also slowly being destroyed. The world is slowly becoming like what Jesus Christ described, a place where "lawlessness will abound" and "the love of many will grow cold" (Mt 24:12). These are all signs that the world we live in is only temporary and that, one day, the world that we know will come to an end.

Why does Jesus Christ need to come again?

When God created the world, He intended for it all to be good. Unfortunately, through the disobedience of Adam and Eve, sin and evil came into the world. This disobedience led man to become separated from God, a separation that led to suffering and death. However, God has provided a way for us to be saved out of death, which is through Jesus Christ. As a result, Jesus Christ will come again to receive those who are saved to eternal **life** and to condemn those who are unwilling to repent to eternal **death** (Jn 16:8). This fulfills His **salvation** plan.

What will happen when Jesus Christ comes?

When Jesus Christ comes again, God will raise all the believers who have died and those who are alive will be brought up with them in the clouds to meet Jesus Christ in the air (1 Th 4:16). We will be just like Christ who was raised up in a spiritual body.

Also, Jesus Christ will execute His judgment on all mankind. In Revelation 20:11-15, it describes the dead

standing before the great white throne of God in a line, waiting to be judged. If a person's name were not found in the **Book of Life**, then that person would be cast into the lake of fire! On the other hand, the righteous will be able to receive their heavenly inheritance. The world will come to an end and those who have been saved will go to their heavenly home.

How do we prepare for Jesus' Second Coming?

In Matthew 25, Jesus Christ tells three parables, or stories that contain a teaching, that describe the three areas on which we need to work as we wait for the coming of Jesus Christ. Let us look at the first one!

1. The Parable of the 10 Virgins (Mat 25:1-13)

Jesus Christ tells the story of ten virgins who took their oil lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Jesus said that five of them were foolish because although they had their lamps, they did not have the foresight to bring any extra oil to put in their lamps. When it was time to go out and meet the bridegroom, they were out of oil. The other five virgins were wise and well prepared. They had brought plenty of oil for their lamps. When it was time to go out and meet the bridegroom, they were ready.

In this parable, Jesus Christ is represented as the bridegroom and the believers are the ten virgins. We do not know when Jesus Christ will be coming, but we need to make sure that we are watchful and prepared by having enough oil, which is the fullness of the Holy Spirit, when He comes. This parable teaches us that not only do we need to have enough oil, but we also need to shine our light for the world to see. This means that in our daily life, we must be holy and filled with the Holy Spirit and also live a life that glorifies God and is a testimony to Him. A good way to check if we are doing that is to ask ourselves if the people around us can tell that we are Christian through our behavior. Do we speak words that are edifying? Do we keep the Sabbath holy? In all that we do, we should strive to make sure we are living a life that is holy and pure!

2. The Parable of the Talents (Mat 25:14-30)

The second parable that Jesus Christ shares tells a story of a man who was going away from his land for a long time. Before leaving, this man asked three of his servants to come and see him. He gave the first servant five talents, the second servant two talents, and the third servant one talent. The first servant with the five talents went out and used that money to try to earn more money, and he earned five more talents. The second servant with the two talents went out and used that money to try to earn more money, and he earned two more talents. The third servant with the one talent

went out and dug a hole in the ground, and buried his talent to hide it. When the master came back, he asked to see the servants to see how they did with his money. The first servant showed him that he had earned five more talents. His master was very happy and said that, because he did good work, he would be rewarded. The second servant showed him that he had earned two more talents. His master was very happy with him also and said that, because he did good work, he would be rewarded. The third servant told him that he knew that his master was a hard man, so he hid the talent in the ground to keep it safe. The master was angry. "You are a wicked and lazy servant. You could have at least put my money in the bank where it could earn money." He then took the one talent from the lazy servant and gave it to the one who had ten talents.

Through this parable, Jesus Christ is teaching us that we need to serve Him and do according to our abilities. God has given us many blessings in our life, and it is important that we are not lazy with our talents, but use what God has given us to us. There are actually many things that we can do for God. We are able to serve God when we preach the gospel to our friends or when we pick up trash at church. We should not simply sit idly by as we wait for Jesus' coming; rather, we should work diligently for the Lord and do all that we can for Him until He comes!

3. The Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Mat 25:31-46)

Jesus Christ shares a story about how one day everyone will be gathered before Him to receive their judgment. Jesus will separate everyone just as a shepherd divides his sheep and goats. The goats will be on the left, the sheep on the right. Then Jesus will talk to the sheep first. He will say to them, "I was hungry, and you fed Me. I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you invited Me into your home. I

didn't have clothes that would protect Me from the cold, and you gave Me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for Me. I was in prison, and you visited Me there." Then the sheep, which are the righteous and caring people, will say, "When did we do these things? Jesus, when did we do these things for You?" And Jesus will tell them, "When you did these caring things for the people around you, you were doing them to Me."

Afterward, Jesus will turn to those on the left, the goats. He will tell them that they did not feed, clothe, or care for Him. He will tell them that He was hungry, thirsty, sick, and needed clothing to protect Him, but they didn't care for Him at all. These people will answer Jesus, "When? When did we not feed and clothe You, Jesus? When did we not care for You and give You food when You needed it?" Jesus will tell them, "When you refused to help the people that needed it most, you were refusing to help Me." These people, the goats, the ones who did not care for the needy, will go away into punishment; but the sheep, the righteous ones that cared for the needy, they will go into eternal life.

From this parable, Jesus Christ is telling us the importance of caring and showing love to others. He wants us to put our faith into action. When we show love towards another, we are not only showing it towards that person, but also to Jesus Christ. He expects us to live a life of love for our family members and also our fellow brother and sisters. If we look at the examples that Jesus Christ has given, we can see that our actions do not have to be great and heroic, but merely simple acts of kindness, such as giving a cup of water. We can practice showing this love towards our family members or people that are in need. When we do so, God will remember us as well as everything that we have done for Him!



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

The Second Coming

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is of great importance to us because the goal of our lives as Christians is to receive the heavenly inheritance. For us, the Second Coming is not something we should fear, but rather something to which we should look forward with great anticipation. It is the time where we can put down the labor of this world and finally have heavenly rest with our Lord.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **When will Jesus Christ come again?** No one knows, but God!
2. **Name three signs that Jesus Christ is coming soon.** Wars, violence, famines, earthquakes, pestilence, and false prophets.
3. **Why does Jesus Christ need to come again?** To fulfill the salvation plan and take those who are saved to our heavenly home.
4. **What are three ways that we need to prepare ourselves for His coming?**
 - a. Be holy and filled with the Holy Spirit
 - b. Be faithful in our servitude
 - c. Show love to our brothers and sisters



Life Application

10 Minutes

ARE YOU READY?

From the lesson, we learned how God wants us to prepare ourselves before the last days. If Jesus Christ were going to come tomorrow, what do you think He would say about your life? [Wait for students to respond.]

Oftentimes, we live our lives in a carefree manner, not thinking about how God would view our lives. We do things just because we want to or because our parents tell us to. Let us take the time to examine our lives and reflect upon how we can improve in each area that God requires of us!

[Hand out the Life Application worksheet to the students, and ask students to complete the first section.]

From the three checklists, we can see that we still have many things to work on before Jesus Christ comes again. Now, I want you to select one thing from the list that you want to work on this week and circle it.

We are now going to be making an action plan for that item. You have to think about three goals for that one item and be specific in how you want to carry it out.

Example

- **Action Item:** Pray for brothers and sisters
- **Why?:** I need to improve on interceding for other people because I usually never pray about others. I want to use this next week to pray for other people.
- **Goal:** I will pray for 2 different people each day of the week.
- **How?:** First, I will come up with a list of people that I know need my prayers and I will tape the list next to my bed. This way, I will pray for them before going to sleep at night.

After you have completed your goals, sign and date the action plan, and ask a parent or guardian to sign and date it, too. Then bring your action plan to class on Sabbath.

Hopefully in this next week, we can move a little closer to being ready for when Jesus Christ comes again!



Activity

Guess How Many

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To illustrate the truth that no one knows which day the Lord will return again.

Materials

- Mason jar
- Water
- Small plastic tub
- Pennies

Instructions

1. Place the jar in the tub and fill it within one-fourth to one-half of an inch from the top with water. (Test this at home to know how much water you'll want to start with and about how many pennies you'll need. You might be surprised at how many pennies it will take.)
2. Ask the students, "How many pennies do you think it will take to make the water overflow?" Record each student's guess on the board.
3. Line up the students and ask them to recite the memory verse as a group, with each student saying one word at a time.
4. If a student recites the correct word, give him or her a penny to place in the jar.
5. Continue until the water overflows, remembering to keep track of how many pennies have been placed in the jar.

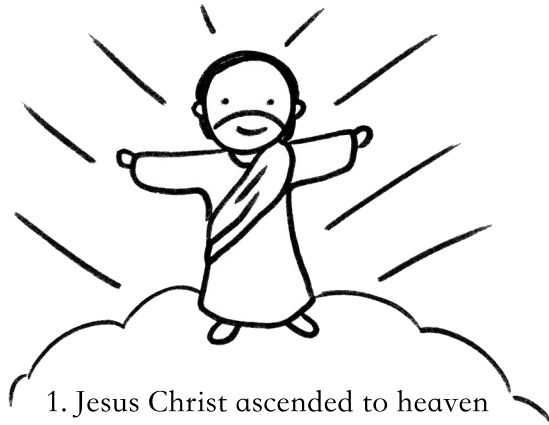
Conclusion

Did anyone guess correctly? Countless people have tried to guess exactly when Jesus will come again, but no one actually knows when that day will be. Did you notice that, at one point, the jar became really full and it looked as though the water would overflow, but it didn't? The water seemed to be floating at the top of the jar. Well, sometimes we see signs that we believe tell us that Jesus is coming back right away, but really we have still a little while to wait. Jesus Christ is indeed coming back very soon, so we have to make sure that we are prepared and ready to go with Him when He does come on that happy day!

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

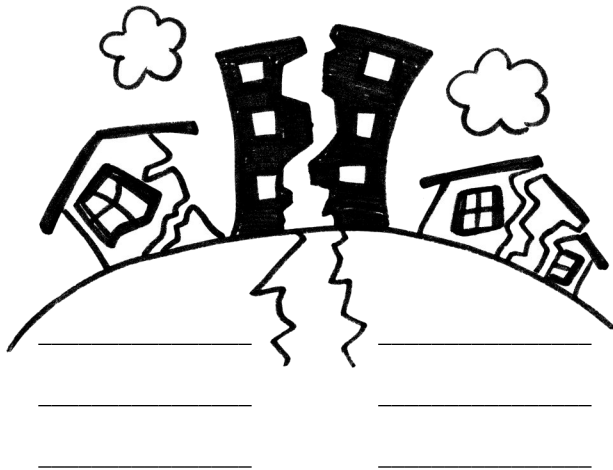
1. thief
2. salvation
3. Life, fire
4. Wars, violence, famines, earthquakes, pestilence, and false prophets.
5. Be holy and filled with the Holy Spirit; be faithful in our servitude; show love to our brothers and sisters.
6. Answers may vary.

JESUS CHRIST'S SECOND COMING



1. Jesus Christ ascended to heaven at the _____, which is right outside of the city of Jerusalem.

3. List 6 signs that Jesus Christ is coming soon from Matthew 24:1-11.



5. What will happen when Jesus Christ comes?

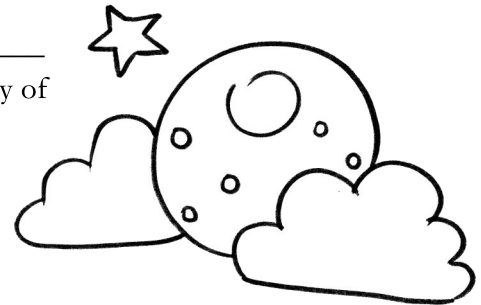
First, our bodies will be transformed to a spiritual body. (1 Th 4:16-18)

Next, Jesus Christ will judge all people according to the _____!
 Those who do not have their name in it will be cast into the lake of fire.
 While those whose names have been recorded will be brought to everlasting life!

2. When will Jesus Christ come again?

Jesus Christ promises us that He will come again as a _____ in the night. (1 Th 5:2)

Only _____ knows the day of Jesus Christ's Second Coming. (Mat 24:36)



4. Why does Jesus Christ have to come again?

Jesus Christ will come to judge all people by receiving those who are saved to eternal _____ and condemn those who are unwilling to repent to eternal _____.

In this way, Jesus Christ fulfills God's _____ plan!



THE PARABLES

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

Draw a sketch of the parable

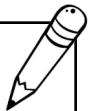


Based on this parable, how do we prepare for Jesus Christ's Second Coming?

The Parable of the Talents

Based on this parable, how do we prepare for Jesus Christ's Second Coming?

Draw a sketch of the parable



The Parable of the Sheep and Goats

Draw a sketch of the parable



Based on this parable, how do we prepare for Jesus Christ's Second Coming?

"Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming."

(Matthew 25:13)

Are You Ready?

Look at the checklists below, and for each list, check the action items you still need to work on!

Checklist #1

- Bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit
(Love, joy, peace, etc.)
- Keep the Ten Commandments
- Pray to God every day
- Read the Bible and think about what it says
- Speak in a way that glorifies God and edifies man
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____

Checklist #2

- Study hard at school
- Serve others at church
- Preach the word of God to others
- Preach the word of God to others
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____

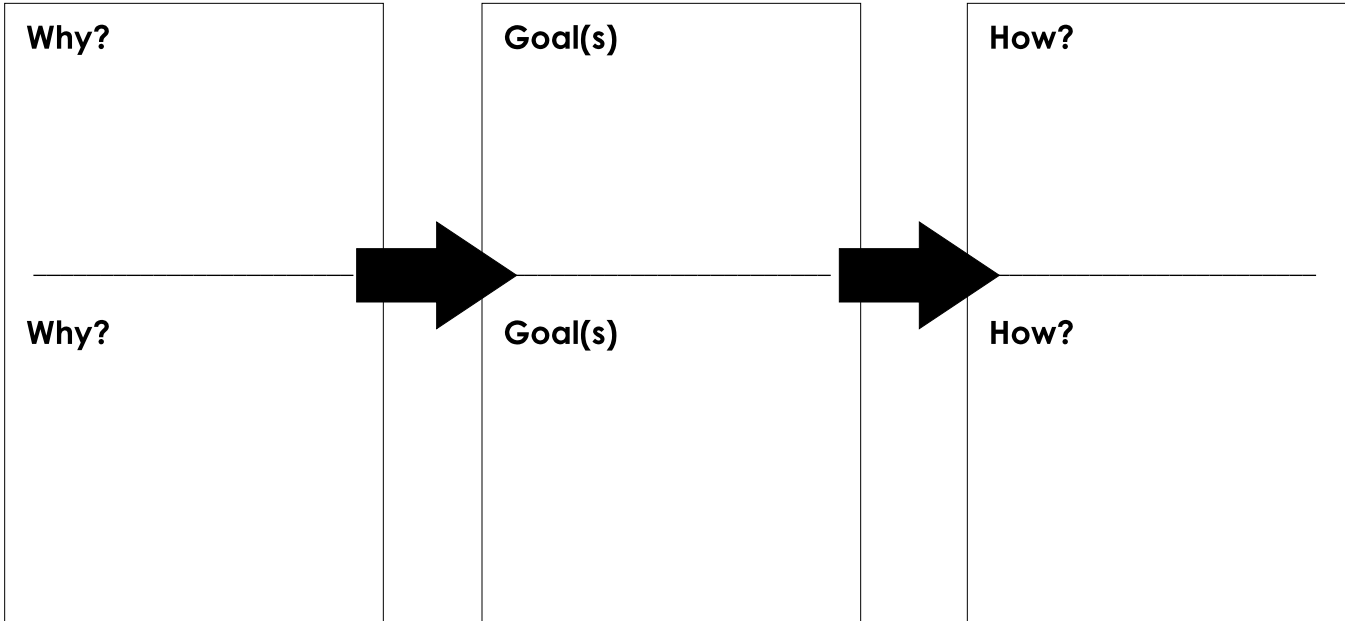
Checklist #3

- Show love to my parents
- Take care of my siblings
- Serve the older members at church (e.g., get water for them)
- Pray for brothers/sisters
- Talk to new friends at church
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____



From the checklists above, circle two items that you want to work on in the next week.

Action Plan



E2 Year 3 Book 3 Lesson 12—Jesus Christ's Second Coming

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Weekly Bible Reading: _____

Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

Prayer: Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (**Matthew 25:13**)

Fill In the Blank

1. When Jesus Christ comes again, He will come like a _____ in the night.
2. Jesus Christ has to come again to fulfill the _____ plan.
3. On the last day, Jesus Christ will judge all people and those who have their name in the Book of _____ will be saved and those who do not will be thrown into the lake of _____.

Short Answer

4. What are the signs that Jesus Christ is coming soon?
5. What do we need to do to prepare ourselves for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ?
6. Are you ready for Jesus Christ's Second Coming? Why or why not?